

Manor Park and Hempstead Fields Residents' Association

Notes of the **Committee Meeting** at 27 Roman Way
Tuesday 10th July 2014 – 7pm

1 Introductions and apologies

Present:

Paul Sparks (Chair)	Glenda Derby,
Peter Griggs (Secretary)	Wendy Tagg
Jane Shepherd	Dorothy Sparks (upstairs but on-call!)

Apologies: Sally Major (Treasurer), Emma Luck

2 Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

The notes were agreed as a true and accurate record of the last meeting.

3 Treasurers Report

Peter presented Sally's report as follows:

'Bank balance remains healthy at £594.

Surgery Car service We have now received £200 grant from Uckfield Town Council towards promotion and set up costs of the Surgery Car Service. Income so far is very small at £8 but hopefully this will grow although, of course, this isn't intended to be profit making, just covering costs.

Big Lunch We expect to receive a grant of £200 from Active Sussex towards costs within the next week. George Moss donated £30 towards prizes for the Art Competition. The ice cream man donated 10% of his takings amounting to £25. We have donated £25 to the Rugby Club by way of thanks for them allowing us to use their premises free of charge.

Finally We have given Roy Thompson and bottle of wine by way of thanks for auditing our annual accounts this year'.

Paul noted that the Insurance was due to be renewed shortly and that this was a significant cost.

4 Town Council's Grant – audit

Peter advised that the Town Council Grants are audited by the Uckfield Volunteer Centre (1 in 10 selected at random) and that Sally and he had attended at its offices for the audit. This went well and the auditor seemed to be very satisfied with how the grant was being spent and the car service generally.

5 Surgery Car Service Update

Jane advised that the bookings completed per month are as follows:

December	1
Jan	0
Feb	4
March	4
April	2
May	2
June	4
TOTAL	17

Peter reported on the meeting that had been held in May with two of the drivers, Maureen, Linda plus Dorothy and Paul, and mentioned certain of the topics that had been explored at that meeting still remained outstanding, i.e:

- entering a car in the Carnival procession – concerns about how to present the service effectively, **not to be pursued at this time.**
- procure two stand-alone notice boards to be located at the entrances to Manor Park – concern about managing them and whether we already do enough to publicise events, but **Peter to explore costs** of purchasing the 'Print Matters' sign. **ACTION Peter**

Paul referred to a meeting with Barry Marlow and his plans for an Uckfield and District surgery car service. He said that it seemed that this would be complementary to our service although the plans were still in the very early stages.

Peter read an email from June Parris where she had suggested that the car scheme be extended to include carrying people with pets to their vets. After some discussion it was agreed that this would be **held in abeyance** until next time we meet with the drivers when we could obtain their views.

6 Village Green

Wendy advised: 'The status is much the same as last time. i.e. No movement. This is partly down to me 'cos I've really not had the mental bandwidth. Essentially there was a court case that has relevance to our situation, which has gone through and we need to consider. To be honest, I don't think we should try and tackle any of this stuff until after the festival and other main events and we have a chance to get our breath back'. Agreed, no further action at this time.

7 AGM

Paul identified some organisational points that needed to be considered:

- lighting in the hall was poor
- same gentleman complained again that no PA was provided – to investigate cost of hire/purchase of a simple PA system **ACTION Peter**
- consider other venues e.g. Ashdown room or UCTC
- utilise the schools hearing loop

8 The Big Lunch

Some organisational points were identified:

- in the interest of variety, consider inviting alternative musical entertainment next time
- Primary School competition – in future we will short list 10 winners and invite them to the event. Then award six prizes plus runner up certificates

9 Shoppers Discount

Peter said that we now have 20 businesses in the scheme. Paul suggested that we try to recruit a Painter and Decorator.

10 Big Day

The arrangements for the stand at the Big Day were discussed and agreed.

11 Civic Centre Open Day (26th July, 11am to 2pm)

Attendance on the day was agreed as follows:

- 10 to 11 - Glenda and Peter to set up
- 11 to 1 - Wendy and Paul
- 1 to 2 - Sally and Peter
- 2 to 3 - Peter and Sally to close down

12 Social Media

Wendy reported there had been a surge in usage since her last report. The Facebook page now has 241 likes.

13 Future events

- Uckfield Festival – Big Day 12th July
- Civic Centre Open Day – Saturday 26th July
- Open day idea- Paul suggested that we organise an ‘Open Day’ to showcase the Association. This could include displays by the discount scheme businesses (modest charge) and could be at the school, Civic Centre or Luxford Centre. The CC might open the bar. Could include musical entertainment by local performer(s).
Paul, Glenda and Peter to form a working group to progress this idea.
- Quiz evening – to be progressed (**Sally?**) with a view to being held in November.
- Wine and Food evening – **Paul and Peter** to discuss idea with landlord at Ringles Pub.
- Question Time 2015 – yes, September 2015
- Big Lunch 2015 – maybe.

14 Any Other Business

- Waitrose’s green token scheme – yes, for car service **ACTION Peter**
- Red Cross request to support their community scheme – no, insufficient capacity

15 Date and venue of next meeting

31^h July, 7pm at 27 Roman Way.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- Civic Centre Open Day – Saturday 26th July
- Spitfire fly over - Saturday 26th July